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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Group Art Unit 2882

11-13-02

Patent Application of
Edward E. Tapanes, et al.
Application No. 09/857,340
Confirmation No. 3208
Filed: June 4, 2001

I, Mary Beth Geipel, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

Mary Beth Geipel
Signature

October 30, 2002
Date of Signature

Examiner: Krystyna Suchecki

“APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR
MONITORING A STRUCTURE USING A
COUNTER-PROPOGATING SIGNAL METHOD
FOR LOCATING EVENTS”

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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This communication is in response to the Office action dated August 8, 2002. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter and consider the following Amendment and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add the following after the claims:

--ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for monitoring a structure and for locating the position of an event including a light source, a waveguide, and a detector means. The waveguide receives light from the light source so that the light is caused to propagate in counter-propagating optical signals in the waveguide. The waveguide includes the counter-propagating optical signals or some characteristic of the signals modified or effected by an external parameter caused by or indicative of the event to provide modified counter-propagating optical signals. The detector means detects the modified counter-propagating optical signals effected by the parameter and determines the time delay or difference between the modified counter-propagating optical signals in order to determine the location of the event.--

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